(b) a coating of a polymer that dissolves at pH 4.5 or above for preventing the release of the drug until the composition reaches the terminal ileum or the colon following oral administration of the composition,

wherein the drug has a free acid group, a pKa in a range of 2.0 to 9.0, and is present in the composition as an alkali metal salt that has a higher solubility at pH 4.5 to 8.0 than a free acid form of the drug, and the at least one pellet is incorporated into a dosage form that is coated with the coating of (b).

60. (New) A method of making a composition, the composition comprising at least one pellet comprising an inner core and a rate-controlling membrane, wherein the membrane determines the rate of drug release, and means to prevent the release of the drug until the composition reaches the terminal ileum or the colon following oral administration of the composition, the method comprising:

(a) providing a drug that has a free acid group and a pKa in a range of 2.0 to 9.0;

(b) making an alkali metal salt of the drug, wherein the salt of the drug has a higher solubility at pH 4.5 to 8.0 than a free acid form of the drug;

(c) coating the salt onto the inner core;

(d) coating the rate-controlling membrane onto the salt;

(e) forming a coating of a polymer that dissolves at a pH of 4.5 or above onto the at least one pellet.

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61.

62. (New) A method of improving the controlled release profile of a drug with a rapidly changing solubility in the pH range of 4.5 to 8.0, the method comprising administering to a patient a composition, wherein the composition comprises

(a) at least one pellet comprising an inner core coated with a rate-controlling membrane, wherein the membrane determines the rate of drug release, and wherein the inner core comprises a salt of a drug; and

(b) a coating of a polymer that dissolves at pH 4.5 or above for preventing the release of the drug until the composition reaches the terminal ileum or the colon following oral administration of the composition,

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wherein the coating coats the at least one pellet, and the drug has a free acid group, a pKa in a range of 2.0 to 9.0 and is present in the composition as an alkali metal salt that has a higher solubility at pH 4.5 to 8.0 than a free acid form of the drug.

62.

~~63.~~ (New) A method for the treatment of ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, irritable bowel syndrome, or inflammatory bowel disease, the method comprising administering to a patient in need of treatment a composition containing an effective amount of a drug that is effective in the treatment of ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, irritable bowel syndrome, or inflammatory bowel disease, wherein the composition comprises at least one pellet comprising an inner core coated with a rate-controlling membrane, wherein the membrane determines the rate of drug release, and wherein the inner core comprises a salt of a drug; and a coating of a polymer that dissolves at pH 4.5 or above for preventing the release of the drug until the composition reaches the terminal ileum or the colon following oral administration of the composition, wherein the coating coats the at least one pellet, and the drug has a free acid group, a pKa in a range of 2.0 to 9.0 and is present in the composition as an alkali metal salt that has a higher solubility at pH 4.5 to 8.0 than a free acid form of the drug.